

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLN. OF: SAKUMA et al.
FILED: October 29, 2003
FOR: CIRCULAR-SHAPED METAL STRUCTURE AND METHOD
OF FABRICATING THE SAME
DOCKET: AMANO A372

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

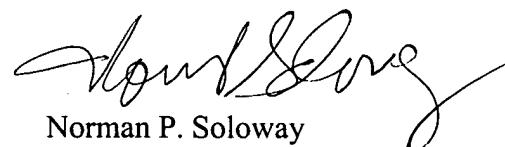
Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-entitled matter, Applicants hereby attach U.S. Patent Office Form PTO-1449, including copies of the references listed therein, which were considered prior to the initial filing, and are discussed in the specification. The claims in the present application are believed to be patentably distinguished over these references.

This information disclosure statement is being made pursuant to the duty of disclosure imposed by law and formulated in 37 CFR 1.56(A). No representation is made that the information thus disclosed in fact constitutes prior art or that it is the closest prior art, inasmuch as 37 CFR 1.56(A) relies on a materiality concept which depends on subjectivity.

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this paper and the papers listed thereon are being deposited with the United States Postal Service “Express Mail Post Office to Addressee” service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signature of Person Mailing Sharon McKniff
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and no considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.